MR VERA'S

Independent

# ATIU JOURNAL

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NO. 34 April 6 1988 Atiu-Cook Islands

# THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO!

## POLITICS

Darling, really, anyone who's anyone this season is standing for election.

It's positively AMAZING, dear, to see who's crawling out of the woodwork to represent the starving masses.

It's absolutely FABULOUS to see them all lining up for the hustings.

And you'll NEVER guess who I saw signing up for the United People's Cook Islands Christian Democratic Unity Party.. ....

(TRY PAGE THREE!)

Former PM, Sir Thomas Davis, rumoured to be locked in a bitter struggle for nomination in the Avatiu constituency.

## EVERYBODY AND HIS THIRD-COUSIN-TWICE-REMOVED READY FOR ELECTION SHOT

## — PSST! WANNA HEAR A DIRTY RUMOUR

INSIDE

## COMMON SENSE RULES IN AIRPORT CRISIS ROW

Everything was on schedule for the revolution.

The gauntlet had been tossed down.

And the airport was due for closure unless Air Raro and CIA coughed up some bigger landing fees.

The it all fell apart and Mayor Papa Tu (above) poured a bucket of vai anu over the revolution. (SEE INSIDE PAGES)

## INSIDE

BOLLACKS TO BCIA!! JCIN THE JOURNAL SAVE=A=KIWI CAMPAIGN....P. 17

WHO'S AFRAID OF JESSE JACKSON - is the USA ready for an All-Black as President? P.12

NORMAN GEORGE - is he everything some people say he is!! P. 10

ADC - news of fresh disasters ?

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ATIU JOURNAL

a national publication.

P.O. ATIU C.I.S.

Cook Islands

The JOURNAL offers a weekly review of news, commentary and features at home and abroad from a Cook Is. and Pacific Regional standpoint.

The JOURNAL is allied to no existing political party or faction.

Advertising rates are available from the Editor. Submissions of articles, letters or other editorial, graphic or photographic material is invited addressed to the Editor. Freelance rates are by negotiation.

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EDITOR: David Lewis.

Editorial

# 'Who do men say that I am?"

The Easter visit of a group of young Christians to Atiu highlights the difficulties many Christian observers experience when confronted by the challenges of the "born-again movement to which most of the young visitors from the Titikaveka area would declare allegiance.

At its worst, the born-again movement has provided a rationalisation for social irresponsibility which is similar to that offered by many ME-generation cults.

It has yet to make any contribution to society at large and appears to use Jesus as a "fix" to be sniffed, inhaled or injected when the going gets rough. It seems to avoid real issues.

Just as the bulk of CICC deacons may have got hold of the wrong missionaries and would find the Koran much more to their mullah tastes, so the "born-again ers" might prefer a spot of Zen Buddhism.

Christian expectations rest wholly on the power of God to liberate mankind, not men.

## COVER STORY

Admittedly, it's been hard to keep pace with all the changes, but if you've been keeping count, we've had seven governments in the last five years.

This time five years ago, we'd just said farewell to the Davis Demos and we welcoming what was billed as the most esciting Parliamentary line-up in the Region, let alone in our own short history.

That, if you cast your mind back, was the new-look CIP, led by Geoffrey Henry and a sparkling cabinet including the first ever woman minister. And, on the opposite side, there was the intriguing prospect of a Vincent Ingram-led opposition.

It offered the best Parliament we have ever had. A tight but workable majority. A minority with ability and enough seats to make debating tense and keenly fought.

Then, according to the most widely accepted scenario, Vincent Ingram and Tupui Henry blew it all to bits, the QR stepped in, Tupui split all the votes up and in came Uncle Tom Wobbley Government and all and the last four years of chaotic opportunism in the affairs of the nation.

Now, we face the chance of confirming our now celebrated status as the Italy of the South Pacific..or the PNG of Polynesia.

OR....

Sound Parliamentary stability might return after a general election this year.

Many believe that a return to majority/minority party alignments in Parliament offersthe best hope for the people of seeing some sound long-term programme of legislative planning stabilise the background to their lives.

Whatever the answer, it is likely that few clear indications will be seen before the election itself.

Both confusion and lack of money have delayed a the emergence of a genuine campaign.

However, March has ended with the first solid signs that a hard fought election is coming up.

We take a look at these signs in this issue....and aren't very impressed by what we see!

# FLASH -STANDING MEMBERS ARE EXPOSED

I'm standing for the United Democratic Front for Extremely Little People
And I've got to raise his $500!
And I'm his campaign manager!

## Vacancy

## M.P.

The House of Parliament has 24 vacancies for trainee representatives of the People.

● Plus Benefits

The purpose of the position is:

- to obtain a big salary and, even, one day, a pension.
- to become a permanent drain upon the community.
- to travel several times around the planet.
- to act on behalf of businessmen, aid agencies, foreign governments and corrupt old buggers back in the village to ensure that everything proceeds as it as proceeded heretofore.

The minimum qualifications for this position are:

- no qualifications whatsoever
- a current passport
- proven resistance to air-sickness and jet lag.
- a fairly convincing claim to a mataiapo title.

The appointees will be responsible to themselves for about four years hopefully, at the end of which period they are required to fend for themselves.

For further information, contact the Clerk of the House...unless he has decided to apply himself, in which case contact any official citizen you can find who is not applying. Finding one will be regarded as a test of your resourcefulness.

Applications close shortly after the incumbents have decided that they can't find anymore loopholes left to let them carry on.

# Write Your Own Ticket!

SEE THE NEXT PAGE

# NO, BUT SERIOUSLY

# THE GREAT BIG LOLLY SCRAMBLE STARTS

The price of entering the race may have gone up to five hundred bucks but that doesn't seem to prevent the halt, the blind, the maimed, the unfit and the untrained from contemplating joining the "pros" in having a crack at sitting allowances, free telephones, Sydney strip shows and Te Atukura booze-ups that are part and parcel of MP-dom! The JOURNAL takes a look at the latest news of aspiring "servants of the people" and offers a commentary on how it is that we may be facing the most complex line-up of candidates ever at the next General Election.

It is hard to be anything other than extremely cynical as the reports come in from around the country giving details of rumours and semi-rumours about who is going to stand where, why and for whom.

The height of cynicism will undoubtedly have been reached in the view of many a student of CIs. politics with the confirmation that Dr. Joseph Williams has apparently obtained the CIP nomination for the overseas seat.

The overseas seat itself is an object of some derision among many NZ-based CIs-ers we have spoken to.

"No point in it at all," a senior Wellington public servant from Atiu told us earlier this year, "all the people in our area regard the management of the Cook Islands as an affair for those of us in residence there. The overseas seat is plain stupid."

The seat was created by the 1989-83 Demo government by constitutional amendment. It was felt to be the way out of the recurring inter-party strife about the rights of NZ-based Cook Islanders and arguments as to whom they really supported.

Its main effect has been (together with the widely-considered equally absurd Tamarua seat) to create a built-in potential for a hung Parliament, 12-12.

We have questioned many NZ-ers as to whether they feel any benefit from having had an MP for the past 5 years and the reply has been 100% in the negative.

The 1983 Overseas Member Mrs. Fanaura Kingstone, in fact, stood on a platform aimed at getting rid of the seat. The fact that, when el-

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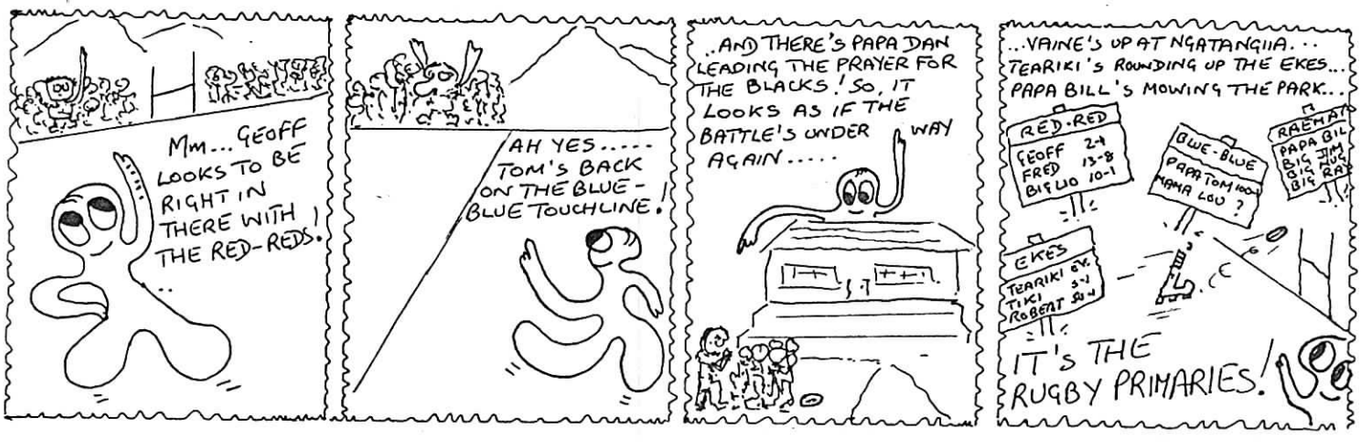
## the quorums

an everyday tale of political folk

tropo


Mm... GEOFF LOOKS TO BE RIGHT IN THERE WITH THE RED-REDS.
AH YES..... TOM'S BACK ON THE BLUE-BLUE TOUCHLINE!
..AND THERE'S PAPA DAN LEADING THE PRAYER FOR THE BLACKS! SO, IT LOOKS AS IF THE BATTLE'S UNDER WAY AGAIN.....
...VAINE'S UP AT NGATANGIIA... TEARIKI'S ROUNDING UP THE EKES... PAPA BILL'S MOWING THE PARK...
RED-RED
GEOFF 2-4
FRED 13-8
BIG LIO 10-1
BLUE-BLUE
PAPA TOM 100-1
MAMA LOU ?
RAEMAI
PAPA BIL
BIG JIM
BIG
EKES
TEARIKI EVEN
TIKI
ROBERT 5-4
IT'S THE RUGBY PRIMARIES!

**FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..**

ected, she chose instead to accept a Ministry is considered to have played a considerable part in her defeat by Mr. Iaveta Arthur in the late 1983 election.

Arousing comment among the people in NZ is the alleged irrelevance of the official CIs. institutions. Some claim that Joe Williams is the only man who could change this view.

Arousing comment, too, among NZ-based Cook Islanders (especially the often vocal students) is the alleged lack of practical day-to-day assistance offered by an official administrative infrastructure which comprises a highly-paid Wellington-based Consul and Secretariat, an Auckland Consulate AND a full-blown constituency member!

Perhaps it is in the interests of increasing the rationale for overseas representation and the need to offer a better grass-roots liaison service than is claimed to exist, that Dr. Williams is proposing to stand.

There are plenty of voices around who suggest a very different scenario.

Since we published news last year of the intending candidature and increasingly, since the recently released CINews announcement of his nomination, we have received many comments upon Joe Williams' proposed move.

Most have been, at best, unflattering.

Opponents of the highly talented doctor venture to suggest that the good surgeon was as adept at political operations as he was professionally in the theatre up at the hospital.

In particular, comments refer back to the now infamous "Williams Plan" of 1977-8 when the then alleged "pretender" to the throne of Albert and key planner of CIP strategy mounted the plan of attack for the Party in a document that is long remembered as perhaps the coldest and most clinical analysis of political tactics ever offered on the local scene.

Dr. Williams' alleged deep-seated ambitions to take over the leadership of the CIP have also been recalled by party sympathisers who view his candidacy (and strong chance of success) as the prelude to a suicidal three-way struggle within the party (Geoffrey Henry, Tupui and Hugh Henry, and Joe Wiiliams) for ultimate control.

"I see no way of imagining Joe Williams working long in politics under Geoff", said a CIP supporter when we discussed the issue.

But, Party feelings and memories apart, Dr. Williams' candidature has seemed sum up in many people's minds a cynicism towards political ambitions which is, in our view, a threat to the very credibility of the political process.

The following, from a strong CIP man, may reflect a strong current of feeling in the country about the upsurge of candidates in these pre-election times and of which Dr. Williams' move is the most visibly symbolic.

"I want to see Geoff in power. But I'll put up with Pupuke. I'll wear Norman and Vince and a few others. But Joe Williams and the likes....they've chopped and changed, they've had a go at different parties...and they've made themselves rich, they want to come back and pick up the perks! And, in Joe's case, like all the !!!! doctors overseas on big money, if they really want to help the people, let them come back here as doctors on local wages!"

Dr. Williams DOES polarise.

A European observer noted to us, "I remember all that stuff Joe was on about in his Unity days...about no parties and electing the best individual and working together and so forth. Well, he should be happy and quietly work to ensure the Coalition gets back in. Because what we've got now is exactly what Joe was supporting five years ago!"

Cynicism also extends to the Parliamentary process itself.

Again, Dr. Williams is the focal point.

"Here's a chap rejected by his party, rejected by two electorates and yet will get back in, maybe, on the votes of people who've chosen not to live here and will probably be demanding a ministry and will be claiming to represent the worker in the taro patch!"

That piece of resentment was given us, admittedly, by a strong Demo (whatever that is, these days!)

Reports from around the country testify to a very confused picture of manoeuvring, manipulation and self-interest.

If accurate, it is alarming at a time when the people, we contend, should be

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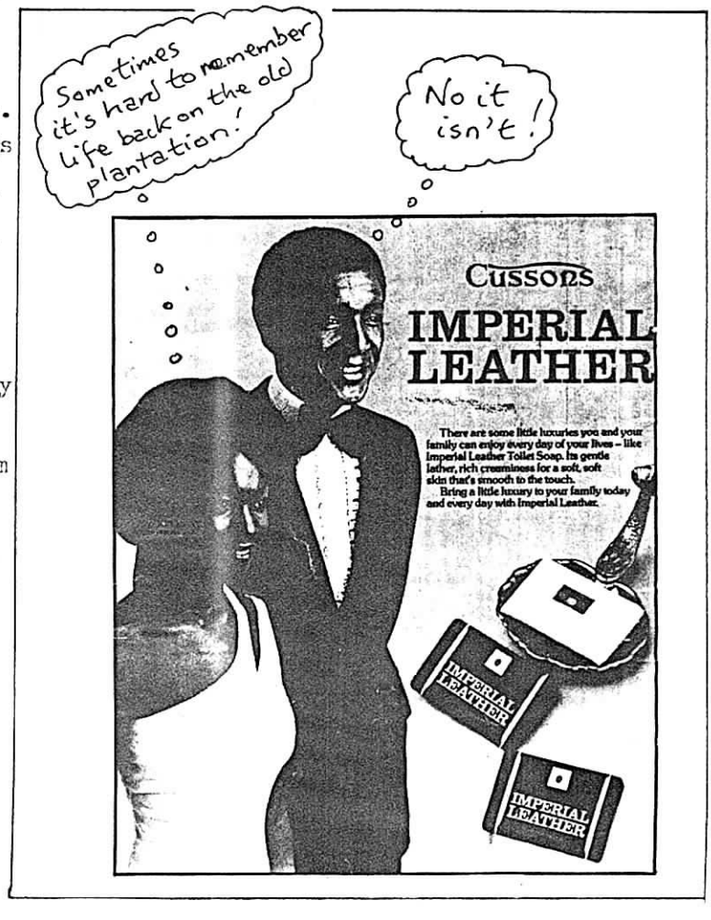
Sometimes it's hard to remember life back on the old plantation!
No it isn't!
Cussons
IMPERIAL LEATHER
There are some little luxuries you and your family can enjoy every day of your lives – like Imperial Leather Toilet Soap. Its gentle lather, rich creaminess for a soft, soft skin that's smooth to the touch.
Bring a little luxury to your family today and every day with Imperial Leather.
IMPERIAL LEATHER
IMPERIAL LEATHER

receiving solid party platform planning programmes for the next five years.

A comparison with the first 1983 election is indicative, some would say, of just how far the political process has retrogressed.

As the accompanying literature suggests, it was a campaign fought along traditional party lines.

The Demos lost because they, basically, failed to capture the people's interest by an apparent "heap of words".

Vincent Ingram's personal success was due to the fact that he did fire his electorate's imagination by words plus solid visible people's development.

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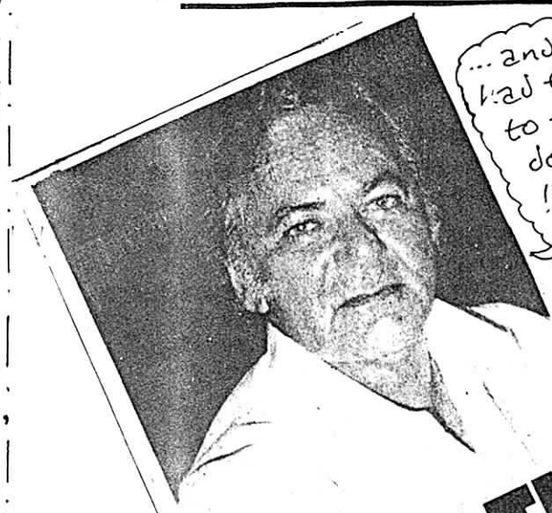
RIGHT AND BELOW:

Democratic Party propaganda 1983. Government by slogan! Put together hastily & by contrast with Tupui Henry's people-to-people CIP campaign not strong enough to upset the still existing CIP "natural majority".

1983 was the last head-to-head encounter between two parties. In retrospect, it seemed a healthy party encounter where the people were presented with recognisable choices. Ironically, having rejected "Economic Development" at the polls, the people (so the JOURNAL) asserts have had it forced upon them through political manipulation by both parties.

# MOU I TE KO MOU I TE ERE



...and they had the cheek to turn me down for a !*x!!*-ing trumpet player!

# DEMOCRATIC PARTY

To ensure that economic development proceeds in a manner compatible with our social and cultural values.

* Planting is in our heritage
* Making things with our hands and using tools is in our heritage
* Fishing is in our heritage

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our people have made significant in-roads into the importing and retailing business previously the domain of expatriates.

In most if not nearly all of the other developing countries, the tourist business is in the hands of foreigners.

## THE MAJOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN 1978 AND 1982 HAS OCCURRED IN THESE AREAS

Value of Agriculture exports between 1978 and 1982 increased three fold.

Manufacturing has increased over six fold.

Before 1979 we imported fish. Since then we are supplying our needs and it will not be long before we will be exporting fish.

## OUR AIM IS TO DRIVE FORWARD IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS

Build effective harbours in all outer islands.

Regular shipping calls to outer islands.

Assist outer islands in agricultural development ment.

Strive towards greater import substitution.

Improve infrastructure generally

Improve fertilizer programmes

Introduce local processing of coconut oil, maniota etc.

Produce our own animal feed.

## A MAJOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HAS OCCURRED IN TOURISM

Our people have fully participated in Visitor accommodation and we own 75% of the total visitor accomodation business.

We as Cook Islanders own most of the visitor activities business.

Entertaining is in our heritage and our cultural activities in this area are the best.

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The big losers, Tom Davis and Iaveta Short threw a couple of last minute presents at the people to show they remembered them (Check the date on the opening of the Avatiu clinic - a monument to political cynicism!) and sat back waiting for the votes.

Cynicism and airy words about "development" were the big losers in 1983. And the bitterness towards the electoral process felt by Tom Davis and the Short family has characterised Coalitions 1 and 2...and has not been thrown off by Coalition 3.

Meanwhile, Tupui Henry rammed a a simple "people's programme" home in every winnable electorate and the CIP's came home (as did Messrs Ingram and the two Mangaian MP's on similar programmes)in the first CIs. election that seemed to onlookers to be a genuine party political battle

Then the manoeuvring set it and went on...and on...and on. And the people became largely irrelevant, it seemed.

Hence, we believe, the widespread cyniscism at large and the icy lack of compromise among several hard-line CIP's who want no compromise from Mr. Henry and an election victory in order to restore the people's rights (they claim) to party politics...not self-interested manoeuvring.

The news on the prospective candidates will not bring a smile to the lips of those who want an end to manipulation and manoeuvring.

One report even names CIP leader Geoffrey Henry, who has been resolutely indicating to date his refusal to manipulate committee selection rights, as being involved in the choice of the Tupapa candidate for CIP.

On checking, however, we incline towards the view that Mr. Henry is sticking to his guns by expressing solidarity with committee first choice, sitting MP, Dan Kamana.

The more accurate version of what is happening in Tupapa, we believe, is a version of what seems to be happening in more than one CIP electorate.

There appears to be a series of battles inside electorates between the old guard committees who have resolutely stuck with Mr. Henry, rejected Tupui Henry and ousted the Maoate-led "traitors" and who place an absolute priority on party loyalty.....and, by contrast, those party adherents who fear that unless Mr. Henry exerts influence over the choice of candidates, the party will be left with a weak line-up offering neither attractiveness to party remegades seduced by Coalition presents not genuine floating voters eyeing up the talent of a prospective government.

In Tupapa, it appears, there is growing support for the candidacy of Teariki Jacob.

For similar reasons Party supporters in Teenui/Mapumai are reported to feel that the candidacy of Teariki Simiona is largely a waste of time and that, unless the leader acts, the party may be handing away a possible CIP seat to Coalitionist Mariri Parataingа or a strong Demo.

Dr. Williams' candidacy will therefore please those who fear that Mr. Henry may not have the front line guns to persuade voters he has a future ruling team.

Better news for Mr. Henry has come to our ears from Mauke, where the rumour of manouevring has few sinister overtones.

There, it is increasingly felt we hear, there may be no point in having an election as it may be best to return Vaine Tairea unopposed and thus avoid the disruption of politicking!

If true, it may bring good news to Mr. Henry, but would, we think, be one further proof of the retrogression of political awareness by the people!

Manipulation, politicking and all manner of shenanigans is reported to be going on in Avatiu where, we are told, CIP's who want a change from Rae Jack (who holds the record for the shortest number of appearances in Parliament in the last ten years) are being told where Mr. Jack may stick his trumpet if they carry on rocking the boat!

Just up the alley from Mr. Jack's is perhaps the biggest battle of them all where Sir Tom is "campaigning" to keep hold of his nomination by (presumably) the Demos. Strong reports exist that serious division exists among the Ruatonga Demos over Sir Tom's candidacy even though he appears to have the support of the influential Tongias elsewhere in the constituency and the machiavellean Shorts in the Central Party Planning Committee (machiavellean in the nicest sense of the word!)

Up around Kent Hall in the land of the ekes, rumours of a three way fight emerge between Demo President and sitting member Teariki Matenga, 1983 defeated CIP Tiki Matapo (son of the late MP Matapo Matapo) and, wait for it, folks planter mogul Robert Wigmore, allegedly representing the Normangeorgesupandcomingarbeitspartei!

Hence, presumably, the sudden and bewildering outburst

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of lavish praise for Mr. Wigmore issued in Parliament last session by the Foreign Minister!

Down the road at Matavera, all is like the clubhouse over the road - somewhat problematic.

William Cowan is apparently standing for the Coalition (whatever that is!) or the Demos (whatever they are!) or as an Independent (of what, no one seems sure!).

He is definitely not standing for the CIP or the Wagon Wheels Socialist Unity Party!

Wandering back from NZ to sniff out the ballot box is reportedly to be Aneru Tautu.

CIP are apparently undecided (though what about, no one is sure).

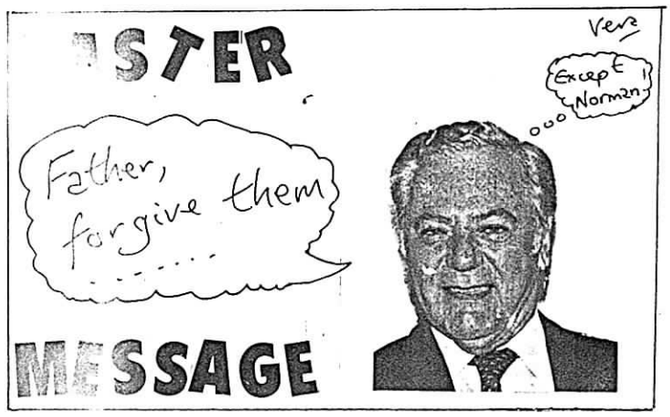
Terepai Maoate may or may not be founding the Terepaimaoatesupandcomingspartei OR may be returning to join Joe Williams as another thorn in Geoffrey Henry's side OR may be popping across the road to work out something with Tui and the Tuijohniavetaupandcomingspartei OR may be popping down to the lagoon to ask Apenera what the blazes he should do!

Down South, all sorts of combinations are getting ready to have their usual go at Matepi and up North Nihi is rumoured to be on the verge of making history for himself and preparing the ground for a possible knighthood by (unbelievably) NOT standing.

We find it all very hard to believe.

But then, we are growing extremely cynical.

It's a disease we caught off the rest of the country!




E: A fair old indictment of someone or something.

We like to think that JOURNAL readers are among the most perceptive in the country (whichever seat in the political economy-class flight they may have booked for themselves).

Therefore, we confidently expect that readers will (pretty unanimously) opt for:

F: All the above and lots more besides!

Well, here we are 23 years after the "self-government" which was Albert Henry's compromise method of getting a timorous and highly dependent people to opt for a degree of self-determination and New Zealand's way of wiping out 60 or so years of colonial neglect with a vestige of acceptability in the eyes of the UN.. who didn't give a stuff anyway!

And what have we got by way of the people exerting a form of independent control over their destinies by means of an organised democratic political process ?

We have one existing party left - moneyless, split at least three ways and holding on to an opposition rump in Parliament.

We have another "party" which hasn't had a conference since 1983 (and even then was incapable of implementing what its national delegates voted for) and which now has no programme, no internal elections,

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COMMENTARY

# «TE TIARAMA»

# LESSONS FROM TAHITI

Here's a little test for all our good and loyal readers!

How many of you have found this issue's cover story (above)

A: Light speculative pap

B: Pathetic gossip

C: Both of the above

D: A telling indication of the abysmal level of political awareness that is the background to public life and the people's affairs in the Cook Islands.

BELOW: New Party HQ Building of "Te Tiarama" the moderate-centrist party holding the majority in the post-Flosse ruling coalition in French Polynesia...big-time Maori politics!

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no policy, no leader and which (biggest joke of them all) calls itself the "Democratic" party!

Then, we have a heap of "independents" who won't call themselves independent and who rule by no mandate according to no policy that the people are aware of.

Finally, we have a new bunch who propose to enter the political process as independents who aren't independent but may or may not belong to either the rump of the CIP or the defunct Demos or any of half a dozen other factions.

The net result is that we are governed by a coalition which isn't a coalition by any known definition in the political dictionary!

How has all this come about since March 1983 when the people of the Cook Islands went to the polls to operate a political process that was among the most sophisticated in the Region, with two strong parties each offering a positive manifesto and a third party offering interesting side-issues for debate ?

The answers are short-term, long-term and fundamental.

The short-term answers are the most tempting and easily understood because the involve the comforting prospect of blaming it all on the human agency.

It is comforting because it implies that any solution is equally simple - change the humans involved and all will be well.

There IS a bit which can be blamed upon human agency.

Certainly, our political process is not complex enough nor does it have the money to cope with powerful defections such as those which have taken place since 1977.

Papa Raui, Joe Williams, Vincent Ingram, Pa Pokino, Terepai Maoate et al and the whole of the Henry (A) family is a pretty powerful set of boat-rockers for any system to absorb and survive through.

Tom Davis' disaffection with democracy after 1983 similarly presented a problem.

A country ruled by a PM who has very little faith in that country's political process and which is subject to massively controlled media and information services is unlikely to evolve in a democratic direction.

More convincing, however, than the influence of human agency is the long term problem of party financing.

No party in the Cook Islands since the 1940's has attempted to set itself up properly on a sound financial footing.

Hence, not only has no party been able consistently to promote itself to the people year-in year-out but, more importantly, the lack of financial security and all that it buys has encouraged individuals to discard the party willy-nilly.

Had either party been financially secure, there would be no coalition (at least not along the self-interested lines of today's ruling group/clique/faction). We would have had an election in November 1984.

Indeed, had either the Demos or the CIP been financially strong, it would have been extremely difficult for Tupui Henry, Vincent Ingram, Tom Davis and others to play personal politics to the extent of destroying the cohesiveness of their parties.

If there's a big bank balance at party HQ, you drop out at your peril!

There are also some fundamental answers to the problem.

NZ's role in the development of political awareness among the colonial subjects of the Cook Islands is, at best, murky.

It is the JOURNAL's contention that one day a Cook Islander will write the history of NZ's contribution to the political development of the Cook Islands.

It will be the smallest book on the USP files!

The same author, we suggest, might feel like writing the political history of the Cook Islands in the 1940's, 50's and 60's.

It will be, we assert, a tale which modern NZers will read with mounting shame.

Fundamental problems of the Cook Islands' own creation have not assisted, however.

The most problematic of these is the potential for a hung Parliament by the ill-conceived Overseas seat being created by the Demos and the Tamarua seat (the only hamlet in the world with its own globe-trotting diplomat) created one whimsical night in Nikao by Tupui Henry promoting simul-

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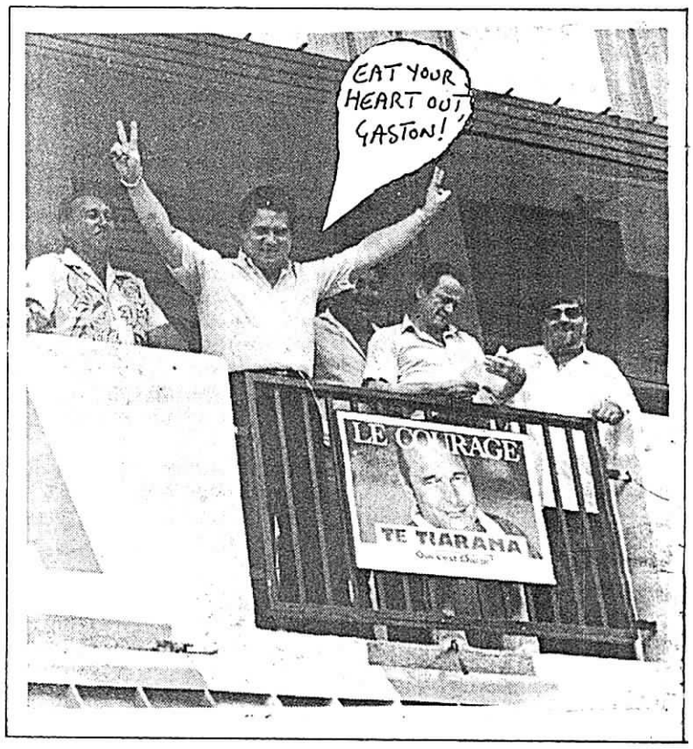


French Polynesia President, Alexandre Leontieff, leader of the majority "Te Tiarama" party in Tahiti's ruling coalition, stands in triumph on the balcony of the new party HQ in Papeete. Leontieff and Rarotonga-born Vice President Georges Kelly were founders of the party which united anti-Flosse elements in the former ruling Tahoeraa Huiraatira party

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taneously his own eccentricity and Mangaian blood!

The one oft-heard answer which can be definitively countered is the racial-cultural one.

The argument is simple. Some might say, cretinous!

Maoris, it suggests, are naturally not inclined to the management of party politics. There is some in-built problem with Cook Is. Maoris which make the 17000 of them (because once in NZ they become pretty adept at it!) congenitally different from the other billions on the planet!

Or, Maoris are culturally ill-disposed towards democracy etc.

Like the British before 1215. And the French before 1789. Or the Russians before 1917. Or the Chinese before 1949 etc.!

The refutation of such answers is close at hand. In Tahiti.

The four Maori nations are engaged at this time in their history in different political struggles.

In NZ, it appears to be a social and cultural battle within a basically friendly political climate.

In Hawai'i, it is a battle for survival on any terms within a hostile political climate.

In both New Zealand and the USA, the Maori nations have very little real political power.

In the Cook Islands and French Polynesia, Maoris possess the power to create a modern democracy with real levels of independent control by the Maori people on the Maori people's own terms.

In the Cook Islands, we are using that power, it seems, to conduct a massive transformation of the Maori people into a dependent neo-colonialist offshore suburb of NZ.

It is a process which is very hard to resist as many well-wishers, both Maori and foreign, would describe the process as inevitable.

In Tahiti, powerful political controls in the form of a sophisticated party political system are battling the process of transformation.

It is our contention that the process of transforming the Tahitian Maori into an imitation Frenchman is far less advanced than that whereby the Cook Islands Maori insidiously assumes the manners, values, habits and even accent of the Kiwi.

We maintain that the essential differnce for the Maori worker lies in the strength of his political awareness (and, for once, all credit to the French).

The recent "Cyclone Bola" appeal we regard as the ultimate triumph of a colonial power - to so imbue the colonial victims with one's own values that they voluntarily persuade themselves that they should give charity back!

The political process appears dead in the Cook Islands.

Our petty gossip and self-seeking, back-stabbing, rumour-mongering village vindictiveness is NOT national politics.

By 1983, we had almost got there. That was politics.

Not today.

We need all to take a look across the water at the cousins in Tahiti now operating a sophisticated inter-party coalition, issuing policy statements, backed by advisory professionals and ...,above all, Maori to the core!

# NORMAN GEORGE ——BOUNCING BACK

## PSST! WANNA HEAR A DIRTY RUMOUR

continued next page


# AML

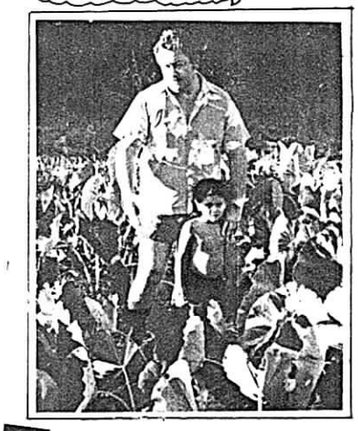
AFTER WORK
WEEK-ENDS
TONIGHT

COME TO AUNTIE KURA

WELCOME

Basically I'm just one of your average taro-planting, pig-feeding, gumboot-wearing, rolex-watched, typical Foreign Ministerial family types

# RUMOURS ? RUMOURS...



## A QUESTION OF LEADERSHIP

# WILL THE REAL NORMAN GEORGE PLEASE STAND UP?

RUMOUR:

Mr. George has used his Ministerial influence with Crown Law to bend the law to suit himself.

FACT:

A defamatory rumour which was made by people failing to come up front with their names.

All such cases brought to our attention have been shown to be totally without foundation.

RUMOUR:

Mr. George is involved in a conflict of interest with regard to his involvement with the new ADC company.

FACT:

Mr. George's actions with ADC (and we have put them to very close scrutiny) are 100% legitimate, legal and in keeping with a Minister of Government assisting local business, an MP responding to constituent approaches, and a party candidate responding to the wishes of his party members, AND an Atiuan elected to do what he thinks best for the improvement of the sad state of Atiu's development.

RUMOUR:

Mr. George deals ruthlessly with public servants who cross him.

FACT:

Cook Islands public servants are, arguably, given liberties offered few other civil servants in the world. They have little cause to complain. At least two Permanent Secretaries who have crossed Mr. George would have been legitimately fired in other countries, but were not.

RUMOUR:

Mr. George is not doing a good job for Atiu.

FACT:

THAT will be decided by democratic process within nine months!

Last week we promised to analyse an issue which has assumed major Atiuan and national proportions. That is issue is simple. Norman George, fast-rising political star, mercurial Chairman of Cabinet fast-talking, quick-reacting, often over-reacting MP for Areora, Te Ngatangi and Ngatiarua - a man whose importance is measured by the fact that, if opponents can topple him in the next election, the era of Coalition may well be doomed. Like all politicians, he is constantly under attack. Almost since our opening issue, we have been inundated by anti-George rumours. All, so far, have been shown to have no basis in fact. Mr. George has accepted without demand to be the only politician in the country under weekly pressure of a free press scrutiny. This week, we look at the latest round of rumours aimed at putting to the test one thing, Mr. George's qualities of leadership.

RUMOUR:

The JOURNAL is the mouthpiece of Mr. George.

FACT:

Unadultertaed nonsense.

RUMOUR:

Mr. George is not interested in Atiu but only in his own career.

FACT:

Mr. George is not a Saint but, like the rest of us, tries his best!

CONCLUSION:

So far, no luck to the rumourmongers!

But keep going! It is part of the political process in so far as it tests MP's under pressure. Mr. George has about a 60-40 win record, we believe, of coolness under pressure. Better than most!

As for the real Norman George. Well, he's probably already standing up! What you see, basically, is what you get! But we're watching, rest assured!

United States

# CAN THE BLACK KNIGHT TAKE THE WHITE KING?

ABOVE: The Democrat contenders three months ago- the pack from which Jackson (second from right top row) and Dukakis (left of Jackson) have emerged.

The JOURNAL is biased. We believe the emergence of Jesse Jackson as a serious candidate for the Democratic Party nomination for the US Presidential election in November is about the only good thing for the developing world that has emerged in US politics in the last decade. But, for a less prejudiced analysis of the Jackson campaign as a turning points in US political history, we offer readers the following review based upon a documentary by the BBC (the top honky show!)

# 'I AM SOMEBODEE'

## JESSE JACKSON

Jesse Jackson's style is very different from the other candidates.

He describes himself as "flesh and blood" fighting "nuts and bolts".

And it is true that he generates a great deal of personal warmth.

He also has the preacher's talent to attract and hold the attention of a crowd.

Huge crowds have been gathering to attend his meetings.

He generally attracts far larger crowds than the other candidates can muster.

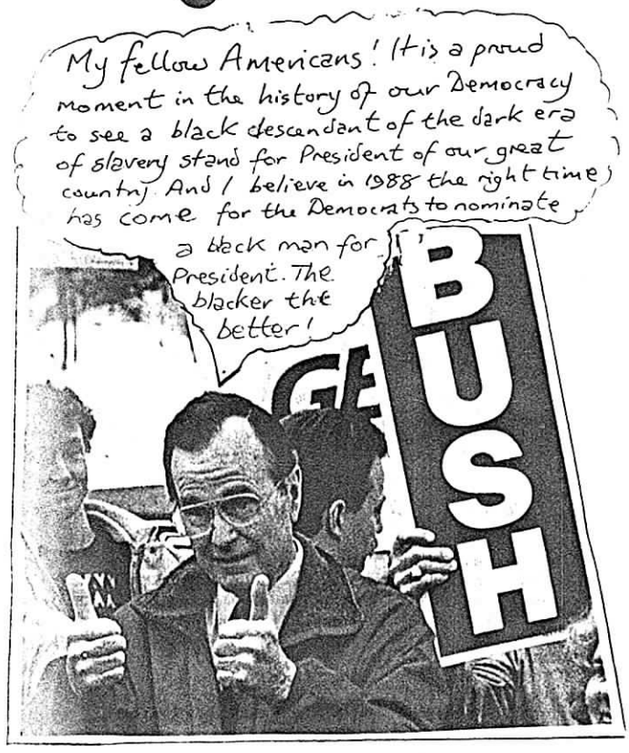
The mood at a Jackson meeting is very exciting, very emotional.

It is part a religious service, part a concert and part a political rally when his meetings are held.

Jackson is usually very late. So you have these choirs which come along from the churches. And they sing in that very intense, very religious style of black services with jazz overtones.

It the style of gospel music and

SEE THE NEXT PAGE


My fellow Americans! It is a proud moment in the history of our Democracy to see a black descendant of the dark era of slavery stand for President of our great country. And I believe in 1988 the right time has come for the Democrats to nominate a black man for President. The blacker the better!
BUSH

FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..

its sound is quite magnificent on occasions.

This has a very catching and very emotive effect.

Jackson himself has modified his style somewhat.

He is still the preacher in the pulpit giving the message but he is not a rabble-rouser.

He uses a lot of humour. His sentences are very short. He tells people in basic and very simple terms what his message is.

It is very repetitive and if you attend a lot of his meetings you keep hearing the same old things. There's little departure ever from the basic simple message.

What tends to vary are the statistics. He appears to make a lot of them up as he goes along.

In fact, it is a curious feature of the Presidential race that it is the two preachers (Jackson and Republican Robertson) who are the most careless in their use of facts and figures.

The other powerful component of Jackson rallies are the other black ministers.

They are all very respected figures in their communities. They are unified and on the platform. They give introductory speeches and afterwards lead the appeal for money.

Jackson doesn't have the money campaigns of the other contenders.

To some extent it's a kind of passing around of the hat among the black churches.

He gets the audience very enthused and then, at the end, comes the pitch for money.

Jesse Jackson has always made a virtue of not having big money behind him, and of not being able to afford big-time prime-time TV advertisements like his opponents.

But the money is now starting to roll in.

He has support through all classes of the black community.

They are solidly behind him. He has so far obtained 95-97% of their votes.

And, according to US commentators, his campaign is captivating them.

The black community, they report, appear to take enormous pride in him.

Reports also speak of the skilful campaign he has mounted inspite of very little financial backing.

Genuine enthusiasm, it is said, has been aroused for him among a noticeable proportion of the electorate.

Through Jackson, it is claimed, the US black community is finally making a united political statement.

Jackson standing in his own right, reports offer, is a surrogate for the black community.

He is the first, claim commentators, who has stood for himself rather than as an ally of one or other white candidate.

As such, he appears to represent the black community for once standing out on its own with a strong candidate and a candidate who is doing well.

Among whites, support has tended to be down to between 5 and 10% and it mainly comes from academics and students.

But Jesse Jackson has been making great efforts to attract disadvantaged whites. He aims at the poor farmers, the unemployed and it may be starting to produce dividends.

In the recent Connecticut Primary, Jackson was beaten by fellow Democratic Party leader Mike Dukakis 54% to 27% but Jesse Jackson managed to increase his percentage of the white vote to about 20%.

The response to him today is far different than during his first campaign in 1984.

The difference in the two campaigns, it is alleged by Jackson strategists, reflects a difference in American society in the last four years.

They point to many farm closures, plant shutdowns and unemployemnt among the agricultural and industrial areas.

The people affected, they say, have watched their standard of living fall under the Reagan policies.

Such people, it is claimed, are not going to judge Jesse Jackson by the colour of his skin but by the content of his message. That, they state, is why he is picking up growing numbers of white voters, who together with his solid black support, are giving him marginal victories in many states and tight finishes in many others.

He appears this time, also, to be offering a more mature and appealing campaign.

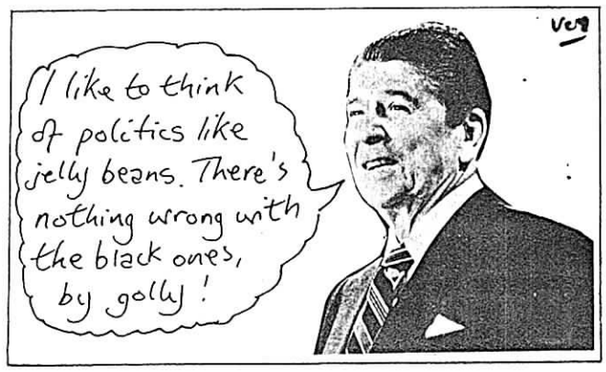
The base has been broadened by a wider appealing message which can be characterised as a typical populist appeal which is awakening white Americans to issues which cut across racial lines.

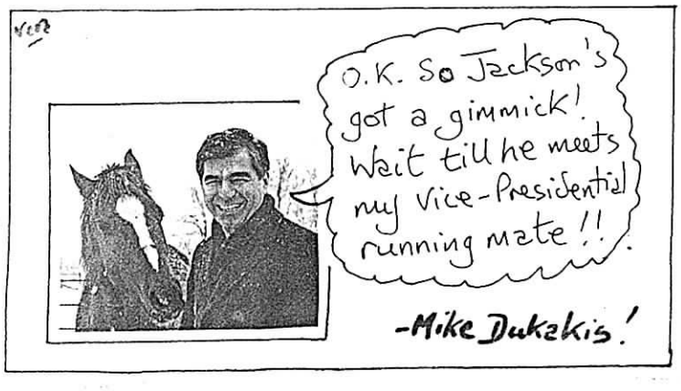
The errors of political judgment in 1984, such as statements deemed anti-Jewish, have been studiously avoided.

His stature seems to have grown and he is commanding respect that was not there before.

He still, however, has flaws which could be used to damage him.

His controversial claim to have been intimately involved with the Martin Luther King civil rights campaign of the 1960's is cons-



from previous page

idered by some older black leaders to be self-serving and highly exaggerated.

Many in the civil rights movement at that time allege that Jackson has a tendency to "show off" at very visible moments and not be around when unglamorous hard work had to be done.

The possible resentment among blacks though is considered by commentators to be only "a small area" of negative reaction.

Another factor which does not seem to have hindered his rise is what is dubbed "his personal morality" - the issue which destroyed former white Democratic front runner Gary Hart.

The public knowledge of Jackson's sexual affairs, as a married man with 5 children, does not seem to have damaged him.

Others have expressed doubts about Jackson's qualifications for high office, as he has never held elected office or even had a conventional job.

Then, too, there are his policies which are criticised by some as being short on specifics.

He puts great emphasis on re-distribution of wealth, ending injustices and says that the Reagan administration has reversed the accepted biblical notion of charity by making the poor contribute to the needs of the rich!

He highlights the many social welfare programmes which have been cut back under Reagan and says that he is going to restore them even if it means putting up taxes.

He also claims to be aiming to reduce the budget deficit at the same time.

His thrust economically is a call to switch away from defence and military spending back to the social welfare field.

In foreign policy, he is very much a third world figure.

He is against contra aid in Nicaragua, wants greater levels of disarmament with the USSR, tougher sanctions against South Africa, would cut off aid to the Angolan rebels and wants the 3rd world debt problem to be dealt with as an emergency through an American "Marshal Aid" programme to the 3rd World.

Although several of the other Democratic candidates would support several of these measures, in sum Jackson's message appears to the American public as very radical indeed.

In the eyes of a not inconsiderable number of people, his foreign policy statements appear un-American, if not anti-American.

So far, unlike the other candidates, neither Jackson's personal life nor his policies have come under the microscope.

No one has even grilled him on how his grand schemes will be paid for.

This lack of criticism may stem partly from a fear of being judged a racist.

Also delegates are nervous about any shift in the black vote they will need for the final contest in November.

But, as Jackson's star rises, so does the criticism.

There is even a rumour that a "stop-Jackson" campaign has started amongst the Democrats who believe they will be throwing away a chance of the Presidency by having a black standing.

Recent polls support this, showing Dukakis beating Bush (the almost certain Republican nominee) as a possibility.

But with Jackson, the polls say there is no chance.

Other Democrat leaders claim that if there is a "stop Jackson" move in the making, it will be disastrous for the party, much worse than the worst scenario anyone could dream up about Jackson being on the ticket.

After all, they point out, the Democrats are supposed to claim to be the progressive party, the civil rights party, the non-racial, non-religious party coalition of liberal Americans.

Going against Jackson, it is claimed, would mean that the Democrats were turning their back on history and this would create a grave crisis.

The crisis may come anyway.

Jackson, whose favourite rallying cry is "I am somebody", is unlikely to step aside for Dukakis or anyone else, even if it is seen to be in the best interests of the party.

Nor does the Vice-Presidency hold any great attraction for him.

As no one Democrat is likely to win the support of the majority of the delegates, some sort of compromise is likely to be needed.

But, so many commentators belive, Jesse Jackson's success, even if it were to fade tomorrow, represents a turning point in US politics.

He has shown, they say, that the black community now has political "clout" and influence.

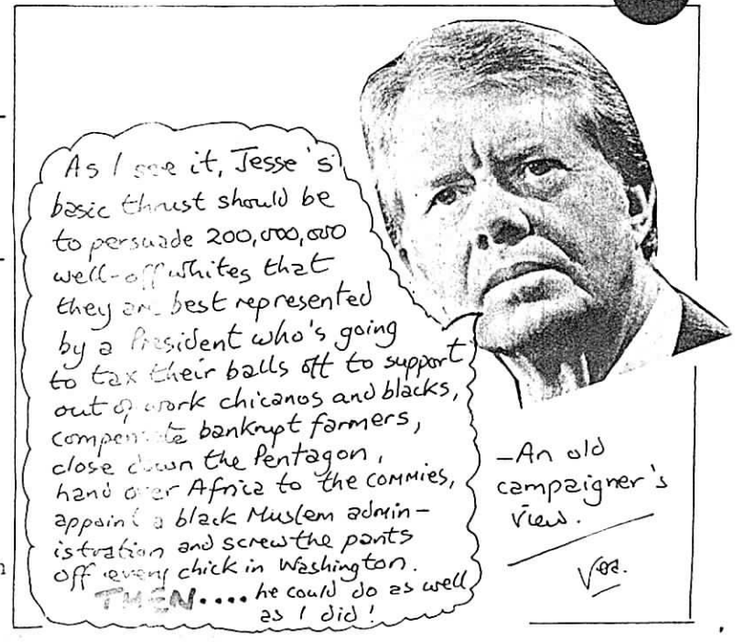
Some claim that if he doesn't win, he is certainly paving the way for someone to come after him.

Other gloomier forecasters underline the problem he offers the Democratic Party in so far as it can't win with him and can't win without him!

Hence, it all indicates that the Democrats can't create a national coalition able to win the White House any more.

They appear to have lost the support of the white middle classes because they are concentrating too much on the Jackson constituency, not just the blacks but the poor, the dispossessed, the "gays" and so on.

Thus Jackson symbolises not an important shift in US political feeling but simply the continuing failure of the Democrats to get a winning coalition together.


As I see it, Jesse's basic thrust should be to persuade 200,000,000 well-off whites that they are best represented by a President who's going to tax their balls off to support out of work chicanos and blacks, compensate bankrupt farmers, close down the Pentagon, hand over Africa to the commies, appoint a black Muslem administration and screw the pants off every chick in Washington. THEN.... he could do as well as I did!

—An old campaigner's view.

Voss.

# THREAT! AIRPORT CLOSURE! 'PATIENCE' SAYS PAPA TU

## COMMON SENSE RULES IN AIRPORT CRISIS ROW

Mayor Teiotu

Common sense and a fair dose of diplomacy appeared to avert a crisis arising for the island in the form of closure of the airport just prior to the Easter holiday period.

That, we believe, sums up general feelings among the Atiu public reacting to the shock announcement on Monday by Airport Corporation Chairman Mataki Kaiaruna that the airport was to be closed after the two CIs, domestic airlines had "failed" to meet demands for a rise in airport landing fees.

The announcement was made by Mr. Kaiaruna acting he told us, "on his committee's instructions."

Mr. Kaiaruna stated that the committee felt they had given proper notice to the two airlines of a proposed rise in landing fees and that they were reacting because they had had no reply.

MP Mariri Paratainga had been asked to convey the committee's feelings to the airlines and a cable had also been sent to them, said Mr. Kaiaruna.

Prominent in pacifying a potentially explosive local situation was Mayor Papa Teiotu, observers noted.

Speaking with committee members, Mayor Teiotu is reported to have called for patience, proper negotiation and awareness that the people of Atiu (for whom the airport is an important lifeline) would be very displeased if maximum care was not taken to maintain air services.

When contacted by the JOURNAL, Mr. Ewan Smith of Air Rarotonga (the country's most experienced domestic airline executive) told us that he considered Outer Islands landing fees to be a very proper subject for negotiation between Corporations and Domestic Airlines.

But he stressed that his company would find negotiation difficult unless things were done in a more "businesslike" way.

He denied that he had ignored previous demands from the Corporation, stating that he did not consider the ways the Corporation had gone about things to be those which would ensure smooth and proper channels through which to conduct business.

Mr. Smith said he would welcome entering into negotiations with a view to putting the relationship with the various Outer Islands airport authorities on a sound footing.

He mentioned that his company had conveyed such feelings to Civil Aviation executive Tuingariki Short and to Atiu MP Mariri Paratainga.

"It should be recognised," said Mr. Smith that "all four S. Group airports are to be involved in any overall negotiation. "

He added that his own company's fare structure was built to see out 1988 and had within it a 12-13% fluctuation which can be absorbed without affecting passenger fares although, he added, "the basis of any negotiation must be an understanding that somewhere along the line, someone has to bear the cost of increases."

Mr. Smith concluded that the establishment of negotiated landing fee adjustments on an annual basis would be of great value to all concerned. He said that he looked foward to being part of such negotiations in April if possible.

SEE THE NEXT PAGE

## MEANWHILE

Urgent message from Areora Control, Captain! Divert immediately to Mitiaro or circle slowly until Papa Tu has sorted it all out!
KOREAN AIR

**FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE..**

**——— airport?**

Speaking to the JOURNAL, Mr. Kaiaruna defended his committee's actions.

"We are within our rights to inform the airlines using airstrips on the landowners' land of our feelings" he said.

"My committee acted properly," he added, "we gave notice in writing of our demands and followed this with a cable as we had received no reply."

Mr. Kaiaruna refuted the charge of not being businesslike and noted that it was not until the threat to close the airport had been made that progress towards achieving what he felt was a fairer landing fee was seen.

He said that he had called in MP Parataínga legitimately to act for the committee in Rarotonga as long-distance communications were difficult.

When questioned about the role of Civil Aviation and the Airlines fare structures in negotiations, he said that his committee would be keen to be guided by correct legal procedure but added that others should remember that it was his duty first to represent the views of his committee and to act on their behalf.

Mr. Kaiaruna said that he had been informed that formal negotiations would now take place in April and he was looking forward to them as he agreed with Air Rarotonga that a proper annual negotiating procedure should be ironed out.

He concluded by saying that his instructions were simple as the committee made no secret of the fact that they wanted to see the landing fees go up to $25 from the present $20 which, he said, had existed for many years.

"In fact," he said, "they date from the old grass airport and were received by ELI. My committee has never been part of any negotiation on landing fees."

Mr. Kaiaruna said that a meeting of the airport Corporation would be held on the 7th April and the result would be conveyed to the JOURNAL.

# ADC BID FOR CITC

Reports have been filtering in to the JOURNAL over the last couple of weeks of a dramatic bid by the newly formed Atiu Development Corporation to take over the Atiu branch of the national retail store CITC.

CITC is the biggest store on Atiu and is at the centre of trading and purchasing life on Atiu, being the main retailer of household ware, hardware and software as well as a full range of food and drink.

Unconfirmed reports so far indicate that the bid has not been successful but a close associate of ADC has confirmed to the JOURNAL that negotiations are not abandoned.

The JOURNAL was unable to contact CITC headquarters in Rarotonga owing to the holiday period radio shutdown but shall be doing so this week.

When questioned, Mr. Tiki Teamoke, manager of Atiu CITC, referred us to Mr. Neil McKegg in Rarotonga.

Local reaction given to the JOURNAL varied from support in principle for the move to unconcealed hostility.

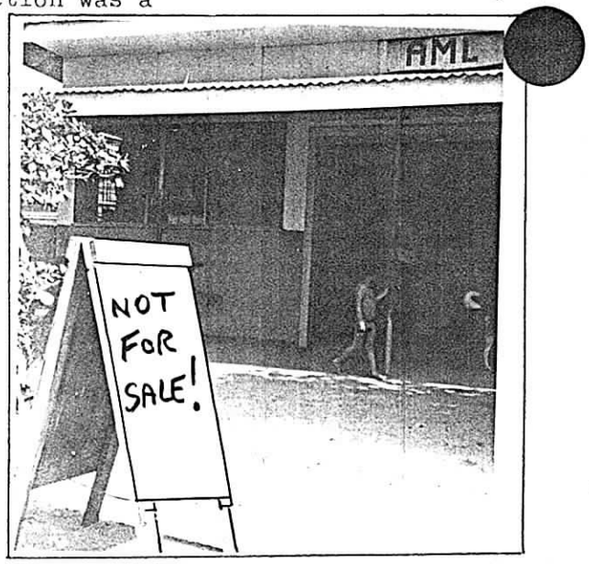
A typical reaction of many was summed up by a housewife who told us, "I've no objection and would like to see Atiuans owning it provided Tiki (Mr. Teamoke) and his family are looked after as well as they are by CITC, there's no sackings and jobs for committee members' families and they can give us a better service than we are getting."

Ouright support came from one or two who said, "It's good for Atiuans to own it."

The most hostile reaction was a claim that "that lot" couldn't run anything and certainly not as well as CITC!"

Another widespread public view was expressed by another Atiuan housewife who said, "there's no problem except that this ADC group go around doing things they say are for Atiu and never tell Atiuans what they are doing!"

(NB: Legal advice suggests to us that ADC as a private company has no duty to tell the public what they are doing. ADC, however, as a venture using the name of Atiuan Development to attract loans and assistance may be ethically bound to consider the interest and feelings of ALL Atiuans. (ED)

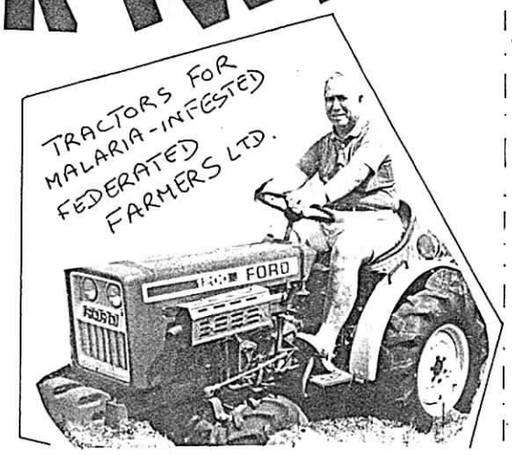


# SAVE A KIWI

(A JOURNAL appeal)

In return for this generosity, my government will be most receptive to your next request for an extension of overdraft facilities!

KIWIS ARE HUMAN BEINGS, AFTER ALL!



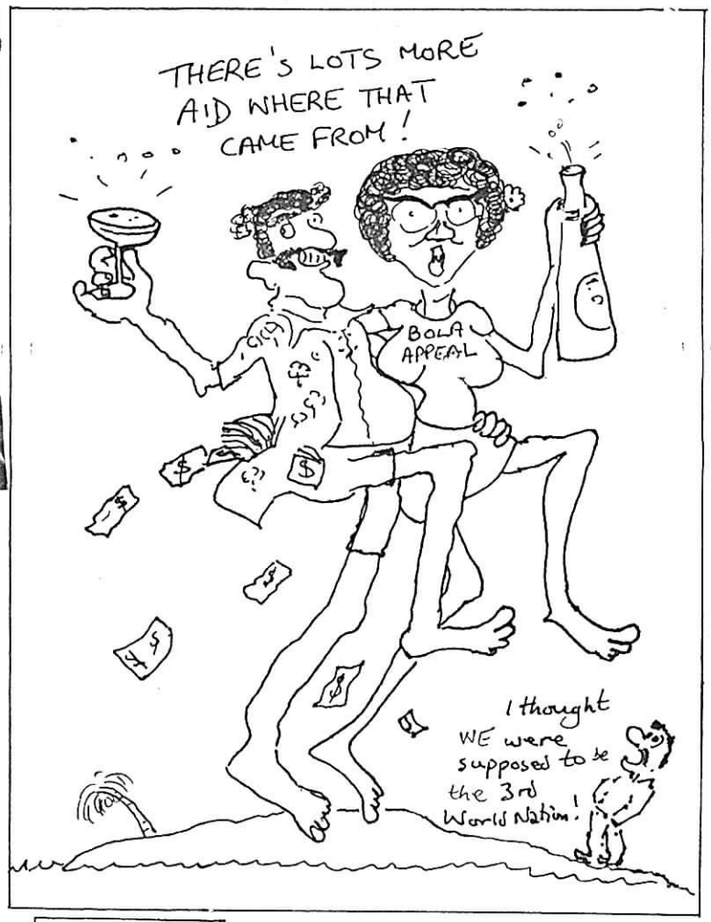

## WHO ARE YOU?

Are you one of the fortunate ones? Fit? Healthy? Bursting with all that life can offer?

OR...are you weak, pale, helpless and at the mercy of the immigration authorities?

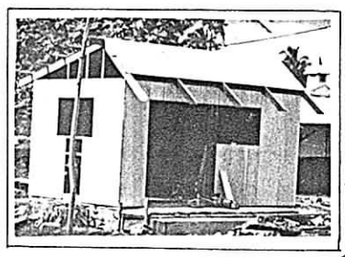
Why not adopt of friendless hotelier who probably hasn't had a square cocktail since half past eight?

REMEMBER: OTHERS ARE NOT AS LUCKY AS WE ARE!

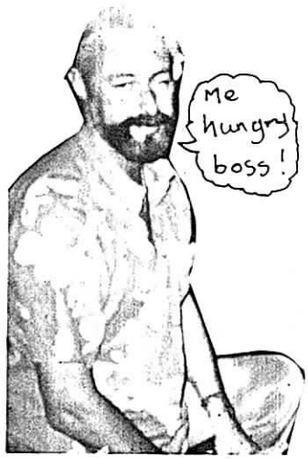



BELOW: BREAD FOR SUB-SAHEL PATEA NOMADS FLEEING IN FACE OF JOBLESS FREEZING-WORKS GUERILLAS

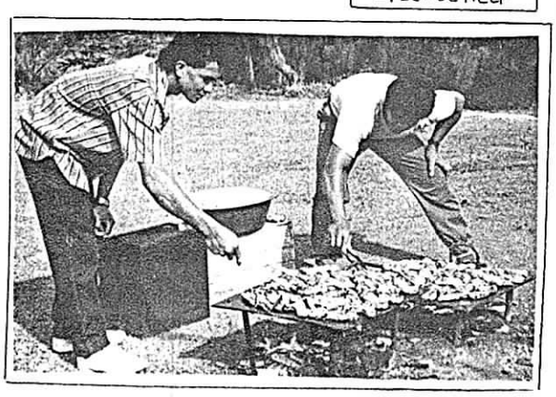
URGENTLY NEEDED 25,000 EMERGENCY COCONUT GRATERS FOR THE HOMELESS IN DARGAVILLE - PLEASE HELP



That old bush knife could save a life. Wrap and send to KIWI KRISIS KALL P.O. OTARA

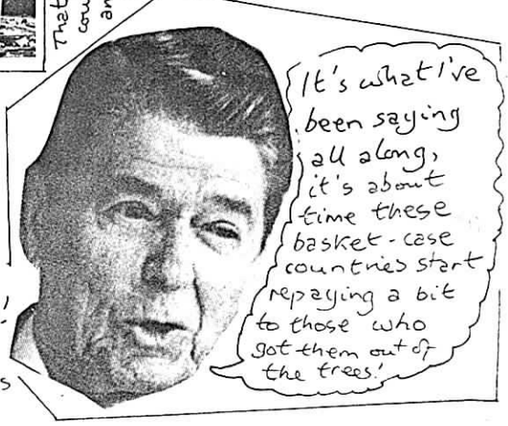



ABOVE: An underdeveloped Kiwi who needs YOUR help!



ABOVE: CYCLONE BOLA RELIEF HOUSING FOR MIKE MOORE'S 3rd COUSIN'S BROTHER-IN-LAW!

LEFT: FRESH CHOPS FOR HOMELESS, YACHTLESS RENUERA REFUGEES


It's what I've been saying all along, it's about time these basket-case countries start repaying a bit to those who got them out of the trees!

April 6 1988

# THE JOURNAL & THE (Last) WORD

## exclusive!

In covering recent events in Atiu business, mention has been made of the Atiu Development Corporation (ADC) of which I am chairman.

In my position as chairman, I take it upon myself to make clear to the public our company's policy.

In ADC we are an Atiuan Company wholly controlled by Atiuans acting in our private capacities. At present we have asked the Crown Law Office and other legal advisers to help establish us on a sound legal footing.

We also employ the services of an experienced expatriate manager to assist us.

It is taking us time to get underway because we are aware that mistakes have been made by many of us in a learning situation in Atiuan business.

We are also aware that, if we are to succeed, we must be able to compete in the hard world of business and must be efficient and in line with Cook Islands legal procedures.

It must be stressed that we are not a government agency and are not run by our politicians. We, the committee run our affairs. But, we do wish to have as much assistance as possible from the government and from our two members of Parliament. This is our right. The fact that our two MP's are also minority shareholders is their right, too, as Atiuans. It does not mean that they run the company.

Finally, I want to make it very clear that my committee will not allow ADC to get involved in attacks on other businesses or allow ourselves to be used for such attacks. What private individuals may choose to do is their right but it will not be done in the name of our company.

I ask the public to be patient, give us time, and try to help us make this venture work because I truly believe it will be a very important part of the development of our island for all our people.

M. Kaiaruna
(Chairman)

**ADC**

## THE ABC OF ADC

In our nine month's life at the JOURNAL we have tried to offer an independent view of the major issues affecting the life and times of our island and our country at this point in their history.

They have ranged through every aspect of our lives, especially those which are part and parcel of the magic code word "development".

No story, however, offers as comprehensive a picture of CIs. life and public affairs as does that of the Atiu Development Corporation.

We have spent months assembling the facts and assessing the venture.

ADC has just been formed.

What is it ?

Who is it ?

And what does it mean in terms of Cook Islands development ?

NEXT WEEK!
EXCLUSIVE!
ONLY IN
THE JOURNAL!

(Left: A press statement kindly issued by Mr. M. Kaiaruna of ADC on the occasion of the forming of the new Atiuan venture.)